

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Shayne X. Short (Reg. No. 45,105) on September 22, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

39. (currently amended) A Wireless Personal Area Network (WPAN) management method, the method comprising:

determining distances between a piconet coordinator (PNC) and each user piconet device (DEV) of a plurality of DEVs within a WPAN;

based on the distances between the PNC and each DEV of the plurality of DEVs, grouping the plurality of DEVs into at least two groups of DEVs;

assigning a corresponding profile for each group of DEVs that governs the communication between the DEVs of that group of DEVs and the PNC such that each DEV of the plurality of DEVs has a respective profile assignment;

for each group of DEVs, supporting communication between the DEVs of that group of DEVs and the PNC;

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monitoring relative positions of each DEV of the plurality of DEVs with respect to the PNC; and

based on a change in position of at least one DEV of the plurality of DEVs with respect to the PNC, modifying the profile assignment that corresponds to the at least one DEV whose position has changed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to claim 1, the prior art of record fails to anticipate or make obvious "...the PNC performs ranging of relative position of each DEV within the plurality of DEVs using the time duration of round trip time of the respective transmitted UWB pulse and the at least one additional respective received UWB pulse thereby determining distance between the PNC and each DEV within the plurality of DEVs; based on the ranging of relative position of each DEV of the plurality of DEVs, the PNC groups the plurality of DEVs into at least two groups and identifies a corresponding profile for each group thereby forming a plurality of profiles"

With regard to claim 16, the prior art of record fails to anticipate or make obvious "... based on the specific locations of each DEV of the plurality of DEVs with respect to the PNC, the PNC groups the plurality of DEVs into at least two groups and identifies a corresponding profile for each group"

With regard to claim 27, the prior art of record fails to anticipate or make obvious "... both the first PNC and the second PNC perform ranging of relative position of each DEV within the plurality of DEVs using the time duration of round trip time of the respective transmitted UWB pulse and the first or second at least one additional respective received UWB pulse thereby determining distances between the first PNC and the second PNC and each DEV within the plurality of DEVs; based on the ranging of relative position of each DEV of the plurality of DEVs, the first PNC and the second PNC operate cooperatively to group the plurality of DEVs into at least two groups and also operate cooperatively to identify a corresponding profile for each group thereby forming a plurality of profiles"

With regard to claim 39, the prior art of record fails to anticipate or make obvious "...assigning a corresponding profile for each group of DEVs that governs the communication between the DEVs of that group of DEVs and the PNC such that each DEV of the plurality of DEVs has a respective profile assignment; ... monitoring relative positions of each DEV of the plurality of DEVs with respect to the PNC; and based on a change in position of at least one DEV of the plurality of DEVs with respect to the PNC, modifying the profile assignment that corresponds to the at least one DEV whose position has changed."

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With regard to claim 50, the prior art of record fails to anticipate or make obvious "... based on the locations of each DEV of the plurality of DEVs with respect to the PNC, the PNC groups the plurality of DEVs into at least two groups; assigning a corresponding profile for each group"

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BLANCHE WONG whose telephone number is (571)272-3177. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 830am to 530pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Blanche Wong/

Examiner, Art Unit 2419

September 22, 2009

/Ayaz R. Sheikh/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2419